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## Governor Fletcher Signs House Bill 215 to Expand Bluegrass Station!

Governor Ernie Fletcher recently signed House Bill 215, which authorizes a three-building expansion at Bluegrass Station. The state will sell approximately \$12,020,000 in bonds to fund the provisions of the bill, which was sponsored by Representatives John "Mike" Weaver, James R. Carr, W. Keith Hall, Stan Lee, and Ruth Ann Palumbo.



Governor Fletcher (seated) signs House Bill 215 at a ceremonial news conference at the Capitol. Standing from left to right are Senate President David L. Williams, Speaker of the House Jody Richards, Principal Bill Sponsor and Representative John "Mike" Weaver, Senator Elizabeth Tori, Representative Ruth Ann Palumbo, Senator Ed Worley, and Adjutant General of the Department of Military Affairs Donald C. Storm. Photo courtesy of the Governor's Office.

Thus far, two of the planned structures include a 50,000 square foot aircraft hangar (Building 194) and a 35,000 square foot warehouse (Building 195). Bluegrass Station Division will lease the buildings to the Special Operations Forces Support Activity (SOFSa) for use by Department of Defense contractor L3 Communications.

L3 Communications will use the buildings to rebuild, modify, and maintain military helicopters. The company indicates that this expansion of its operations will bring approximately 300 new jobs with an average salary of \$40,000 to Bluegrass Station. The 300 new jobs will bring SOFSa/L3 Communications' employment total to more than 1,300 and the total square footage leased to more than 1,000,000. This makes SOFSa/L3 Communications the largest tenant at Bluegrass Station.



Photo courtesy of the KG-PAO.

Construction is scheduled to begin on the buildings in the hangars/helipad area almost immediately. They are scheduled to be in operation by January 2006.

## It's Not Too Late to Resolve to Be Healthier!

Did you resolve this past New Year's Day to lose weight and exercise? Have you given up because it was too hard to do by yourself? If so, you're not alone. The good news is that the support of friends and co-workers can help you keep your resolution and achieve your weight loss and fitness goals. Keep reading for information on how you can lose weight and work out with others.



The next ten-week series of Weight Watchers® TurnAround™ meetings begins at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 24, 2005, in the conference room at Bluegrass Station Division (Building 18). Members have the option of following the flexible POINTS® plan or the **No Counting** plan. Contact Andi Marcum of SOFSa at (859) 293-4188 for details!

Bluegrass Station Division expresses its heartfelt thanks to the tenants and employees who assisted in renovating the fitness center's classroom! Be sure to check with Bryan Wilson of L3 Communications at (859) 293-4118 for schedules on aerobics and other group classes.



## Let's Keep Bluegrass Station's Wastewater System Functional!

It is important for Bluegrass Station's tenants to know that the facility has its own wastewater treatment plant and that it is designed to handle only typical household-type wastewater. Since it is quite small in size, any improper discharges to the sewer system can adversely affect the plant. Please contact Gary Logsdon at (859) 293-4213 before discharging anything more than household-type waste to the sewer so that he can ensure that the treatment plant will not be adversely affected.



## Bluegrass Station Honors Its Heroes!

The Station Master is proud to announce the addition of a new feature to the newsletter - honoring Bluegrass Station's heroes. Each edition of the newsletter will honor one or more employees who work at Bluegrass Station who have served/are currently serving our country since the events of 9/11.

You can help by notifying Alisa Young at (859) 293-4123 with any information you have regarding a Bluegrass Station hero. Thanks so much for helping the Station Master with these tributes and please enjoy reading about this hero:



Cleveland Joyner, a 56 year-old resident of Richmond, Kentucky, left his job as an Administrative Specialist for the Kentucky Logistics Operation Center (KYLOC) for fourteen months to serve our country at Camp Anaconda in Balad, Iraq.

Mr. Joyner, an E5 Sergeant, is a member of the Company H, 171<sup>st</sup> Aviation Regiment, based in Frankfort, Kentucky. The unit spent three months in the United States preparing for its eleven-month mission of moving equipment and personnel via fixed wing aircraft in Iraq. Sgt. Joyner served as a flight engineer and was responsible for ensuring that cargo loaded onto the aircraft met weight and balance requirements.

Sgt. Joyner's unit frequently flew to 80 - 85% of the airfields in Iraq and made frequent flights to Kuwait as well, thus there was always a risk that one of the unit's eleven aircraft could be shot down. Thankfully, Sgt. Joyner made it home alive and well on February 18, 2005, to his wife, three children, and two grandchildren (with another one on the way).

When asked what "everyday comforts" (things the rest of us take for granted) he missed the most while based in Iraq, Sgt. Joyner replied that he missed being able to go to the bathroom in his "birthday suit." He added that it's good to see grass and trees again.

When asked how he feels about his service to our country, he said, "Terrorism is not going to stop. I think most soldiers feel the same way. They'd rather go to Iraq and confront terrorism there to protect their families here. It's well worthwhile." He added that he wished people in the United States could see the support expressed to our soldiers by Iraqi citizens. "People would literally run out of their houses, waving at us. Somebody made a heart saying, 'I love America,' in his field. We loved flying over that," he said.

Sylvia Russell, a KYLOC representative, expressed the organization's appreciation of Sgt. Joyner. "We're very proud of Mr. Joyner's service to our country and proud that he's part of our agency."

The rest of us at Bluegrass Station feel the same way. Thank you, Sgt. Joyner, for serving our country so honorably. Bluegrass Station is proud to consider you "one of us."



### Logan Security Receives Bluegrass Station Contract

The Commonwealth of Kentucky recently awarded a contract to Logan Security to provide security officer service for Bluegrass Station. Logan Security also held the previous five-year contract.

Bluegrass Station Division staff, with assistance from some of the tenants, took the facility's homeland security needs into account when drafting the new contract, thus the officers will be trained in areas such as crowd control, first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), fire prevention, and self defense.

Consequently, you'll be seeing some new faces at the front and back entry gates. Two of these include Fred Brown,



Post (Lead) Supervisor (left), and Frederick Bryant, Site (Assistant) Supervisor (right), who will both normally work from Monday through Friday each week. Brown will generally oversee the 4 a.m. to 12 p.m. shift and Bryant

will usually supervise from 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. The supervisors will provide guidance and oversight to the officers in the following fields: access control, patrols, emergency response, and fitness center operation.

One of the areas on which the patrol officers are currently concentrating their attention is improper parking. They are issuing citations to drivers whose vehicles are not parked in legal spaces (usually marked with white lines). This activity serves a threefold purpose. First, eliminating illegal parking makes it more difficult for terrorists to achieve their goals (for example, not allowing drivers to park too close to buildings decreases the effectiveness of car bombs). Next, when all vehicles are legally parked, it is much easier for ambulances and fire trucks to make their way to emergency sites. Third, the Division's roads and grounds maintenance team will be able to complete their work without having to worry about mowing and weed eating too close to vehicles parked on or near the grass.

Someone who receives three citations of a similar nature will lose his/her windshield decal for a specified period of time and must park in Lot A (by the main entry gate) and walk to work until the penalty phase expires.

Thanks for taking the time to park properly! Also, Bluegrass Station Division thanks the tenants who helped analyze the facility's homeland security needs and thanks Logan Security and its officers for making this a safer place to work.



## Efforts Are Underway to Make Our Little Piece of the Homeland More Secure!

The Kentucky Office of Homeland Security recently gave Bluegrass Station Division \$100,000 in federal grant money to enhance the facility's homeland security.

Division staff, along with representatives of the Kentucky State Police, determined that the Station's most critical homeland security needs included the following:



**Centralized command center** - Building 18 will serve as the post's command center in case of emergencies or other homeland security-related events. The Division is using part of the grant to install fiber optic cable from Building 1 to Building 18 so that the communications backbone is in place for the command center.

**Surveillance cameras** - Surveillance cameras that record activity at the front and back entry gates will help to deter intruders. The plan is for the security officers, as well as Bluegrass Station Division staff, to be able to monitor these cameras.



**Enhanced perimeter lighting** - Additional perimeter lighting will also help to deter intruders and will make it easier for the security officers to observe Bluegrass Station's boundaries.

**Perimeter fence repair** - Repair of the fence that encloses Bluegrass Station will also help to physically protect the facility from intruders.



Bluegrass Station Division thanks the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for making these enhancements possible. The Division also expresses its appreciation to the Kentucky State Police for its guidance.

*Are you interested in learning more about homeland security? Go to <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/> for information about the federal homeland security program or <http://homelandsecurity.ky.gov/> to find out more about Kentucky's homeland security program.*

## New Work Request System Goes Into Effect!



Staff in the Bluegrass Station Division (BGSD) Director's Office recently sent tenants a memorandum that included the new *Bluegrass Station Work Request* form (# BGS-101). The tenant completes the top half of the form and BGSD staff completes the bottom half.

The Division stopped accepting the old work request forms on March 15, 2005, so be sure to make plenty of copies of the new form to keep on hand. Staff is also working on a program that will allow tenants to submit work requests electronically. In the meantime, please either hand deliver work requests to the Director's Office in Building 18, fax them to the attention of Jim Mitchell (right) at (859) 293-4215, or mail/messenger mail them to 5751 Briar Hill Road, Building 18, Lexington, Kentucky 40516-9721.



New labor rates also went into effect on March 1, 2005. The hourly labor rate is now \$27.00, except for telecommunications, which is \$47.00. There is also a 15% overhead charge on work performed. These figures are a slight increase, however they're still a great bargain compared to what you'd have to pay other companies.

Feel free to contact Jim at (859) 293-3025 with any questions you might have regarding the new work request form! Also, call Ed Middleton, Bluegrass Station Division's new Maintenance Branch Manager (left), at 4217 with any inquiries regarding work requests in general. He'll be happy to consult with you.



## Don't Be a Money Hog - Spend Ten Bucks to Win One Instead!

Don't be like those people in the TV commercials who wish and pretend that they had a Harley®! Take a step in the right direction by purchasing a \$10 tax-deductible raffle ticket for a chance to win a 2005 Harley Davidson® FLSTF/FLSTFI Fat Boy® motorcycle worth \$20,000 from the Kentucky State Police.

A maximum of 15,000 tickets will be sold, with proceeds benefiting Trooper Island. The State Police uses the island, which is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, to host free

summer camps each year for 800 children ages 10 - 12 and for children with special needs.

Trooper Island operates solely on contributions and fundraisers, so your help is greatly appreciated! Learn more about the island and the raffle at this website: <http://www.kentuckystatepolice.org/island.htm>.

Purchase your ticket or obtain more information today from Sgt. Lon Fields in Building 1 at (859) 293-4240.

*This raffle is being conducted via Charitable Gaming License # 0000633.*



## ◀ This Could Be You if You Don't Do Your Part to "Think Safety" While Walking or Driving!

The Bluegrass Station Division Director's Office and Safety and Security Office continue to receive complaints regarding unsafe behaviors exhibited by both pedestrians and drivers. You can prevent accidents by following these tips:

**Pedestrians** - look both ways before crossing the street. Even though pedestrians have the right of way, wait for a vehicle to decrease its speed before walking into the street. Also, while walking down the street, face traffic. This means that you'll be walking down the left hand side of the road and be able to see vehicles as they approach.

An example of why it's important that pedestrians walk down the left hand side of the road involves pedestrians who cross B Street from Building 5 to 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue at Building 18 at the stop sign. The majority of pedestrians walk on the right hand side of the road, which connects to a Building 18 parking lot. When people back their vehicles into the street, they have to be extremely careful not to make contact with one or more of these pedestrians with their cars. This may seem simple, however, many vehicles in this particular lot are vans or trucks and are impossible to see around, thus the driver must back out extremely slowly and "hope for the best."

Pedestrians can make this situation safer by walking on the correct side of the road. Thus, a driver who is attempting to back out of a space can do so without worrying about hitting a pedestrian.

**Drivers** - look for pedestrians as you're driving down the road. Stop if you see one who is preparing to cross the street. Also, obey the speed limits and stop signs. Driving a slower speed means that that it'll be easier for you to stop for someone who steps into your path. Also, try to automatically decrease your speed as you approach frequently used crosswalks. That way, you'll get used to slowing down for potentially troublesome areas.

It's up to both pedestrians and drivers to do their part to prevent accidents. Be the person to set the example. Kindly guide your co-workers into doing the same. We'll all be safer for your efforts!

Remember to dial 9-911 for emergencies!!



The Bluegrass Station Division Director's Office at (859) 293-4212 receives a number of phone calls from folks with doctors' offices, schools, day care centers, etc., who are trying to locate particular employees at Bluegrass Station to inform them of important matters such as missed or rescheduled appointments; ill or injured children, spouses, or parents; and for other reasons.

While the Bluegrass Station Division staff is happy to do whatever it can to locate an employee, please keep in mind that there are approximately 50 employers; 1,750 workers; and more than 100 buildings on post. It is virtually impossible for the staff to know who each and every employee is.

Thus, we are not always able to locate a particular person. Employees can help by giving their work telephone number to relatives, friends, acquaintances, school officials, day care professionals, doctors, etc., instead of giving out the main 4212 number. Those of you who don't have your own work phone number can give out your main office work number.

It is also helpful to share the name of your particular employer with these folks. Examples include L3 Communications, the Kentucky Logistics Operation Center (KYLOC), and Pieratt's. Telling them that you work at Bluegrass Station isn't detailed enough.

Thanks for doing what you can to spread the word and make sure that the important people in your life "have got" your number!



### Other Notes...



Bluegrass Station suffered roof damage during windstorms on December 7, 2004, and January 13, 2005. Bluegrass Station Division staff is in the process of repairing these damages.

Bluegrass Station Division is flattered that tenants and employees feel that the facility is safe enough to leave their vehicles unlocked. However, it is still in your best interest (and always safest!) to lock your vehicle when you exit it and take the keys with you.

Please feel free to contact Alisa Young at (859) 293-4123 with any ideas you might have for future editions of the newsletter.

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